

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 310041 TOSEC 130033
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY INR: HHSAUNDERS
APPROVED BY ACTING SECRETARY
NEA:WBRUBECK
S/S - FWISNER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 310041 TOSEC 130033

NODIS
FOR SECRETARY AT OOB, FROM ACTING SEC. AND SAUNDERS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-L

TAGS: PGOV, EG, US, IS

SUBJECT: DRAFT ANNOUNCEMENT OF SECRETARY'S TRIP
TO JERUSALEM

1. FOLLOWING IS SUGGESTED TEXT OF STATEMENT THAT
MIGHT BE ISSUED BY PRESIDENT ANNOUNCING YOUR PRESENCE
AT JERUSALEM TALKS AND ATTEMPTING TO SET RECORD STRAIGHT
ON OUR POSITION TOWARD BEGIN PROPOSALS.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

IN RESPONSE TO INVITATIONS FROM THE GOVERNMENTS OF EGYPT
AND ISRAEL, THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED SECRETARY VANCE TO
ATTEND THE OPENING SESSIONS OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE
WHICH WILL BEGIN MEETING JANUARY 15 IN JERUSALEM AS
A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CAIRO CONFERENCE.

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PAGE 02 STATE 310041 TOSEC 130033

THE PRESIDENT HAS EXPRESSED TO THE TWO GOVERNMENTS THE
READINESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE
IN SUPPORT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WILL CONTINUE IN
THOSE MEETINGS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT BOTH SIDES WILL BE
PRESENTING SERIOUS AND CONCRETE PROPOSALS AS A BASIS
FOR NEGOTIATION.

THE ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES IS NOT TO ENDORSE ONE
PROPOSAL OR ANOTHER, AND WE HAVE NOT DONE SO. OUR
ROLE IS TO HELP THE NEGOTIATING PARTIES MOVE TOWARD
COMMON GROUND AND AN AGREEMENT THAT WILL MEET THE LEGI-
TIMATE INTERESTS OF BOTH SIDES. INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS
AND DIFFICULT DECISIONS WILL BE REQUIRED, BUT WE BE-
LIEVE THAT THE COMMITMENT TO PEACE OF PRESIDENT SADAT
AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN WILL ASSURE THAT THE HISTORIC
OPPORTUNITY CREATED BY PRESIDENT SADAT'S INITIATIVE
WILL NOT BE LOST.

END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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